

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 249

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FOR OES, JOHN FRY AND CHARLES GORSEY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, SP, PFOR, MARR

SUBJECT: DRAFT PRESS COMMUNIQUE FOR MAY 16 MEETING OF S&T COMMITTEE

1. WE HAVE DRAFTED THE FOLLOWING IN COORDINATION WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, AND BELIEVE IT WILL SERVE AS A BASIS FOR DRAFTING A PRESS COMMUNIQUE AT THE MAY 16 MEETING.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF DRAFT PRESS COMMUNIQUE: "MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION, MAY 16, 1977.

3. THE SPANISH - U.S. JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION, MET FOR THE FIRST TIME AT THE LEVEL OF CO-CHAIRMEN ON MONDAY, MAY 16, 1977, AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN MADRID.

4. THE MEETING, WHICH WAS CONDUCTED BY THE CO-CHAIRMEN, D. MANUEL BARROSO (DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS) AND MRS. PATSY MINK (ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR OCEANS AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS), BROUGHT TOGETHER REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS UNCLASSIFIED

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MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

5. THE JOINT COMMITTEE, AFTER REVIEWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATY DEALING WITH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, CONCLUDED THAT SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN RECENT MONTHS TOWARDS LAUNCHING A NEW PROGRAM OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL

COOPERATION.

6. PUBLIC REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN SPAIN COVERING THE VARIOUS CLASSES OF ACTIVITY TO BE SUPPORTED UNDER THE S&T COOPERATION PROGRAM. THE SECRETARY OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE REPORTED ON THE RESULTS TO DATE OF THESE PUBLIC REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS (CONVOCATORIAS). MANY EXCELLENT PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

7. WHILE THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE MANY TYPES OF GRANT, THE JOINT COMMITTEE REAFFIRMED THAT THE INTERESTS OF BOTH NATIONS WILL BE BEST SERVED BY EMPHASIS ON COOPERATIVE RESEARCH. THE JOINT COMMITTEE CONSIDERED PROPOSALS FOR FUNDING SEVERAL SPECIFIC PROGRAMS. WHILE DEFERRING ACTION ON SPECIFIC FUNDING LEVELS, THE COMMITTEE AGREED THAT COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAMS WOULD BE SUPPORTED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

--SOLAR ENERGY - THE U.S. ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY WILL COOPERATE WITH THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND OTHER SPANISH AGENCIES IN THE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION OF SEVERAL SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS. EFFORTS ARE EXPECTED TO CENTER ON THE AREA NEAR ALMERIA, SOUTHERN SPAIN.

--AGRICULTURE - THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WILL COOPERATE WITH THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ON A NUMBER OF PROJECTS, INCLUDING CONTROL OF PESTS AND CROP IMPROVEMENT.

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--WATER RESOURCES - THE U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WILL COOPERATE WITH THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO IRRIGATION.

--OCEANOGRAPHY -- TWO U.S. INSTITUTIONS, THE WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION AND THE SKIDAWAY INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY, ARE EXPECTED TO COOPERATE WITH THE SPANISH INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY IN PROJECTS HAVING POTENTIAL BENEFITS FOR THE PRODUCTIVITY OF SPAIN'S COASTAL WATERS.

8. A SECOND ROUND OF CONVOCATORIAS IS CURRENTLY BEING CONDUCTED IN SPAIN, WITH A JUNE 30 DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS. THE JOINT COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO MEET AGAIN AFTER JUNE 30 TO CONSIDER THERE NEW PROPOSALS." END TEXT OF DRAFT PRESS COMMUNIQUE. STABLER

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